RE 4672

COUNTY COUNCIL OF BERWICK.

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

Health and Sanitary Condition of the County and Districts,

BY

ANDREW A. McWHAN,

M.B., B.Sc., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

YEAR 1929.

DUNS:

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COUNTY OF BERWICK.

Report by the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1929.

To the Scottish Health Department, to the County Council of Berwick, and District Committees thereof.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

In conformity with the requirements of the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1889, Section 53, the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897, Section 15, and the Regulations of the Scottish Board of Health, I have the honour to submit to you my Report on the Health, Vital Statistics, and General Sanitary Conditions of the County of Berwick and its several Districts for the year 1929.

I am,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ANDREW A. McWHAN.

County Offices,
Duns,
19*th July*, 1930.

Annual Report by Medical Officer of Health.

The Board, in virtue of their powers under Section 15 of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897, hereby call upon every Medical Officer of Health of a District of a County, or of any part thereof, to prepare annually a Report with regard to his district for the year ending 31st December. The Report shall contain :—

a. A general account of influences and conditions injurious or dangerous to the health of the District and of the measures that in his opinion should be adopted to improve those conditions.

b. A statement of the general enquiries he has made during the year, of any special enquiries as to sanitary matters, and of any matters as to which he has given advice or granted certificates, including any action as to offensive trades.

c. A statement as to the quality of the water supplies in Special Water Supply Districts and other populous centres in the district, and the sufficiency of such supplies for all domestic and sanitary purposes.

d. A statement as to the efficiency, or otherwise, of the drainage systems in all Special Drainage Districts, and of the methods of sewage purification and disposal; and any suggestions for their improvement.

e. An account of the presence or absence of pollution of rivers or streams within the District, the sources and nature of any such pollution, and any action taken to check it.

f. An account of any proceedings under the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1925, dealing specifically with (i.) the sufficiency of working-class dwellings, (ii.) the habitability of existing dwellings and the action taken to deal with defective or uninhabitable dwellings, (iii.) any schemes under consideration or contemplated for the improvement of insanitary areas under Part II. of that Act, and (iv.) the action taken where instances of overcrowding have been ascertained or suspected.* In regard to (i.) information should be given as to the number of houses estimated at 31st December, 1929, as then required adequately to meet the needs

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**N.B.*—Where the Medical Officer of Health has been designated by the Local Authority as the Officer who is to act under Article 2 of the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations (Scotland), 1928, the information required in the Form of Report issued with the Board's Circular of 9th December, 1929, shall be sent direct to the Department. The information contained therein should also be included in his Annual Report.

of the district of the Local Authority (including houses required to replace houses at present occupied that should be closed and demolished).

g. An account of any proceedings under the Housing (Rural Workers) Act, 1926.

h. A statement showing whether any conditions have arisen, or are expected to arise, pointing to the expediency of a town-planning scheme for the proper control of further development.

i. A statement as to the causes, origin, and distribution of diseases within the District, and the extent to which the same have depended on or have been influenced by conditions capable of removal or mitigation.

j. An account, with tabular statements, shewing the incidence of infectious diseases, both notifiable and non-notifiable, with special reference to pneumonia and encephalitis lethargica, and of the action taken to prevent the outbreak and spread of such diseases, with special reference to arrangements for the supply of diphtheria anti-toxin and to any use made of the Schick and Dick tests of susceptibility to diphtheria and scarlet fever respectively and of the recently developed methods of artificial immunisation against these diseases. Where the Medical Officer of Health has information shewing the number of cases of infectious disease occurring in houses of different sizes he should record it in tabular form under this heading.

k. An account of any changes that have taken place during the year in (i.) the hospital accommodation available for persons suffering from infectious disease in general and from smallpox in particular; (ii.) the means provided for the conveyance of such persons; (iii.) the houses of reception; and (iv.) the arrangements for the destruction or disinfection of infected articles; and observations on the adequacy of the present provision for each service and on the use made of such provision.

l. A list of cases in which school closure was recommended, showing (i) name of school, whether partial or complete closure was recommended and whether the recommendation was carried into effect; (ii) the dates between which the school was closed; (iii) the nature of the infectious disease that was the cause of closure; and (iv) the reasons that led the Medical Officer of Health to recommend closure.

m. A statement of the facilities available for the treatment of persons suffering from venereal diseases and any suggestions for their improvement.

n. An account of the work done under the tuberculosis scheme with a note of any new measures adopted and additional facilities provided

or made available during the year. (Where the tuberculosis scheme is administered by the County Council the information under this heading will be given by the County Medical Officer.)

o. A statement of the arrangements made and work performed under the scheme of maternity service and child welfare, and of other relevant particulars in the form appended to this circular. The form has been amended in respect of the statistics relating to (a) Confinements in L.A. maternity institutions and (b) puerperal fever and puerperal pyrexia. Medical Officers of Health of Local Authorities that have no scheme of maternity service and child welfare, or that are members of Combination Authorities for maternity service and child welfare in terms of the Notification of Births (Extension) Act, 1915, need not furnish the particulars in the appended statement except under headings 1-4 inclusive and 24. The attention of the Medical Officer of Health is specially directed to the necessity for following the headings of the Appendix and supplying the necessary statistics in the form indicated.

p. A report on the working of the Notification of Births Act, 1907. (This applies to areas where a scheme of maternity service and child welfare has not yet been carried into operation.)

q. A statement in regard to the administration of Part II. of the Midwives and Maternity Homes (Scotland) Act, 1927, with particular reference to (i.) total number of maternity homes registered in the area ; (ii.) total number of beds in such homes ; (iii.) applications registered or refused or registration cancelled during the year ; and (iv.) inspections made during the year.

r. A statement in regard to the administration of the Milk and Dairies (Scotland) Acts, with particular reference to

(1) the arrangements made by the Local Authority for bacteriological examination of samples in terms of Sections 20 and 21, and notes on any samples examined ;

(2) any action taken in connection with milk consigned from other areas, or the detection of dirty milk (Section 4 (3) of the Act of 1914) ;

(3) any outbreak, not previously reported, which has been spread by milk, or milk products ;

(4) the progress of milk grading in the district ;

(5) any other action taken under the Acts.

s. An account of the work done under Section 43 of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897, for the inspection of meat and other articles of food, and a statement of work done or of arrangements that ought yet to be made under the Public Health (Meat) Regulations (Scotland), 1924, observations on slaughterhouses,

oversea meat, unsound food, food inspection, and particulars of the sanitary condition of premises where foods are manufactured, prepared, stored, or exposed for sale.

t. A report on the work done by the Local Authority under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts and the Public Health (Preservatives, &c., in Food) Regulations, with observations on any special questions which have received or require attention.†

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†Information under these headings is required only in cases where the Medical Officer of Health has been appointed to deal with the Acts or Orders.

Density of Population.

The area of Berwickshire, exclusive of the Burghs, is 291,732 acres or 455.83 square miles. The average densities, according to the last census, are 0.075 persons to the acre or 48.2 to the square mile.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births.

	Total Registered, including illegitimate.	Transfers. Out.	Transfers. In.	Corrected Number. Male.	Corrected Number. Female.	Corrected Number. Total.	Illegitimate Births (Corrected).
East District	105	6	12	57	54	111	5
Middle District	13	2	9	60	58	118	15
West District	92	4	11	52	47	99	14
Lauder Burgh	6	1	2	4	3	7	—
Coldstream Burgh	23	—	—	13	10	23	—
Eyemouth	46	2	3	20	27	47	5
Total	285	15	37	206	199	405	39

Rates per 1,000 of Estimated Population.

	Birth Rate Corrected for Transfers. 1929.	Birth Rate Corrected for Transfers. 1928.	Illegimate Birth Rate per 100 Total Births Corrected. 1929.	Illegimate Birth Rate per 100 Total Births Corrected. 1928.
East District	13.1	16.4	... 4.5	6.7
Middle District	16.4	15.9	.... 12.7	9.0
West District	19.4	18.2	.... 14.1	8.9
Lauder Burgh	10.0	7.6	.... —	33.3
Coldstream Burgh	18.9	10.1	... —	—
Eyemouth Burgh	19.4	19.6	.... 10.6	6.4

Marriages.

	Number.	Rate. 1928.	Rate. 1929.
East District	26	4.5	3.1
Middle District	24	4.4	3.3
West District	37	4.0	5.3
Lauder Burgh	4	6.3	5.7
Coldstream Burgh	13	9.2	10.7
Eyemouth Burgh	11	7.1	4.5
Total	115	35.5	32.6

Deaths.

	Deaths Registered.	Transfers. Out.	Transfers. In.	Corrected Numbers. Male.	Corrected Numbers. Female.	Corrected Numbers. Total.
East District	106	3	19	55	67	122
Middle District	80	2	21	40	59	99
West District	70	4	12	37	41	78
Lauder Burgh	9	1	3	7	4	11
Coldstream Burgh	25	3	1	15	8	23
Eyemouth Burgh	27	—	2	12	17	29
Totals	317	13	58	166	196	362

Rates per 1,000 of the Population.

	Uncorrected.	Corrected for Transfers.	Corrected for Transfer and adjusted for age and sex distinction.
East District	12.6	14.4	11.9
Middle District	11.1	13.8	11.4
West District	13.7	15.3	13.4
Lauder Burgh	12.8	15.7	11.5
Coldstream Burgh	20.5	18.9	14.2
Eyemouth Burgh	11.1	12.0	11.4

Causes of Death (Corrected for Transfers), 1929.

	East District.	Middle District.	West District.	Coldstream Burgh.	Eyemouth Burgh.	Lauder Burgh.	All Berwickshire (excluding Duns Burgh).
Enteric Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Typhus Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Smallpox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Measles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Whooping Cough	3	0	1	0	0	0	4
Diphtheria	0	1	1	0	0	0	2
Influenza	7	5	5	1	0	0	18
Encephalitis Lethargica ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Epidemic Diseases ..	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	3	3	4	2	1	0	13
Tuberculosis Meningitis ..	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Tuberculosis of Intestines and Peritoneum ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Tuberculosis Disease	1	0	1	0	0	0	2
Malignant Tumours ..	17	11	6	3	6	3	46
Rheumatic Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Meningitis (not Cer., Spin., or Tuberc.)	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Apoplexy	16	15	9	3	1	1	45
Heart Disease	22	25	15	0	7	0	69
Diseases of Arteries ..	4	2	2	1	0	1	10
Bronchitis	7	4	7	0	3	0	21
Pneumonia (all forms) ..	5	5	6	8	3	0	27
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	4	2	1	0	2	0	9
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years) ..	2	1	0	0	0	0	3
Appendicitis	1	0	1	0	0	0	2
All Diseases of Liver (not malignant)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nephritis (Acute and Chronic)	3	2	2	1	0	0	8
Puerperal Sepsis	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Other Dis. and Acc. of Preg. and Parturition ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dis. of Early Infancy and Mal-formations ..	2	7	4	1	1	0	15
Suicide	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Other Violent Deaths ..	2	0	3	0	2	0	7
Other Defined Diseases ..	19	10	8	3	3	6	49
Causes ill-defined or unknown	2	2	0	0	0	0	4
All Causes ..	122	99	78	23	29	11	362

Notifiable Infectious Disease.

Summary of Notifications—1929.

The following table shows a summary of the cases of infectious diseases notified:

	East District.	Middle District.	West District.	Landward part of County.	Burgh of Coldstream.	Burgh of Lauder	Burgh of Eyemouth.
Typhoid or Enteric Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Typhus Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Smallpox (suspected) ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	50	26	30	106	0	7	0
Diphtheria	2	2	14	18	0	0	0
Erysipelas	3	7	0	10	1	0	0
Puerperal Fever ..	1	1	2	4	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
Cholera	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Relapsing Fever ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Continued Fever ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cerebro Spinal Fever ..	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Tuberculosis	16	12	9	37	2	1	6
Malaria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pneumonia—							
Acute Primary ..	2	4	2	8	1	0	1
Influenzal	0	9	4	13	2	0	1
Chickenpox	27	20	19	66	9	0	11
Encephalitis Lethargica	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Anthrax	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Poliomyelitis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jaundice	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	102	82	80	264	15	8	20
Cases removed to Hospital	54	24	50	128	2	4	2

Infectious Disease Notified since 1913.

The number of cases of infectious diseases, notifiable and otherwise, notified each year since 1913 is shown in the following tables :—

	Smallpox (suspected)	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Erysipelas.	Puerperal Fever.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Diphtheria.	Tuberculosis.	Malaria.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Cerebro-Spinal Fever.	Polio-myelitis.	Acute Influenzal Pneumonia.	Acute Primary Pneumonia.	Encephalitis Lethargica.	Anthrax.	Chickenpox.	Jaundice	Totals.
1913	0	50	7	15	0	0	64	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	166
1914	0	163	0	14	2	0	31	42	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	255
1915	0	88	5	15	1	0	28	44	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	181
1916	0	65	2	7	0	0	50	36	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	160
1917	0	84	2	5	0	0	16	48	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	157
1918	0	46	0	13	0	0	18	64	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	143
1919	0	23	2	8	0	0	34	53	1	3	4	0	10	1	0	0	0	0	139
1920	0	27	1	13	1	0	27	46	0	4	3	0	3	29	0	0	0	0	154
1921	0	56	0	5	1	0	21	38	1	2	2	0	4	14	1	1	20	0	166
1922	0	31	2	5	3	0	9	50	0	1	0	0	10	15	1	0	32	0	159
1923	0	58	3	3	2	0	16	61	0	1	0	0	0	10	0	0	27	0	181
1924	1	232	1	3	3	0	6	76	0	3	1	2	13	43	7	0	30	0	421
1925	0	125	2	6	2	0	18	77	0	3	0	1	3	22	4	0	19	1	283
1926	0	110	1	15	5	0	12	59	0	0	0	0	6	7	7	0	64	0	286
1927	0	119	0	14	4	0	8	40	0	7	0	1	10	15	3	0	54	0	275
1928	0	77	4	10	6	0	14	55	0	2	0	0	2	13	2	0	27	0	212
1929	0	113	0	11	4	1	18	46	0	1	1	0	16	10	0	0	86	0	307

Statistical Information regarding Patients in Gordon Hospital for year 1929.

Number of Patients in Hospital at midnight on 31st December, 1928 :—

Scarlet Fever		15
Typhoid		1
Tuberculosis—Pulmonary	4	
Non-pulmonary	2	
	—	6
		—
Total		22

Admitted in year 1929 :—

Searlet Fever		86
Impetigo		2
Diphtheria		18
Primary Pneumonia		1
Influenzal Pneumonia		2
Tubereulosis—Pulmonary ...	13	
Non-Pulmonary	0	
	—	13
Total		122

Discharged in 1929 :—

Typhoid		1
Impetigo		1
Primary Pneumonia		1
Influenzal Pneumonia		2
Searlet Fever		89
Diphtheria		7
Tubereulosis—Pulmonary	11	
Non-Pulmonary	2	
	—	13
Total		114

Number of Patients in Hospital at midnight on 31st December, 1929 :—

Searlet Fever		11
Diphtheria		9
Impetigo		1
Tubereulosis—Pulmonary	4	
	—	4
Total		25

Deaths	5

Bed-patient Days :—

Typhoid Fever		8
Scarlet Fever		3981
Diphtheria		408
Impetigo		36
Primary Pneumonia		66
Influenzal Pneumonia		33
Tuberculosis—Pulmonary ...	1542	
Non-pulmonary	266	
	——	1808
Total		6340

Note.—The day of admission and the day of discharge are counted as one day.

In addition to the bed-patient days for 1929 for Gordon Hospital, 176 bed-patient days were also paid for at the City Fever Hospital, Edinburgh ; 155 bed-patient days were put in at Berwick-on-Tweed Infectious Diseases Hospital ; 516 bed-patient days at Dunbar, and 167 bed-patient days at Pilton Hospital, Leith.

Smallpox and Vaccination.

All Local Authorities of my area are members of the Smailholm Smallpox Hospital Combination.

In the case of an emergency, free vaccination can also be arranged for in all areas without delay, and supplies of lymph obtained from the Board of Health.

So far as exemptions from vaccination are concerned, in the East District 11 were exempted out of 117 births, in the Middle District 5 out of 119, in the West District 5 out of 104, in the Burgh of Coldstream 1 out of 23, in the Burgh of Lauder none, and 25 out of 49 in Eyemouth.

In Eyemouth a large section of the population is now growing up unprotected by vaccination, which, in the event of any outbreak of smallpox, would involve the Town Council in grave responsibility and would seriously affect the safety of the children concerned.

Administrative Control of Tuberculosis.

The cases of pulmonary and non-pulmonary forms of tuberculosis notified for the various areas during the year 1929 are as follows :—

Summary of Notifications of Tuberculosis for 1929.

	Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Both Pulmonary & Non-Pulmonary.	Total Cases
East District	10	6	0	16
Middle District ...	5	7	0	12
West District ...	4	5	0	9
Burgh of Coldstream	2	0	0	2
Burgh of Eyemouth	2	4	0	6
Burgh of Lauder	0	1	0	1
	23	23	0	46

The tuberculosis cases known to be resident in the County at the end of 1929 numbered 98, of which 44 were cases of pulmonary and 54 of non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

During the year, 15 deaths from tuberculosis occurred in the three districts and the four burghs, of which 13 were ascribed to pulmonary tuberculosis, and 2 to non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

Out of the 46 cases of tuberculosis brought to my knowledge during 1929, 41 were notified by practitioners, and the remaining 5 were brought to knowledge after death, through the death registration system. Out of the 15 patients who died during 1929 from some form of tuberculosis, 7 were notified after death or within two months of death, and of that number 5, as has already been said, were notified after death. Of those who received treatment during the year, 8 died ; of whom 3 died in institutions.

During the year, 10 patients received domiciliary treatment ; 1 was treated in open-air shelters ; and 3 received dental treatment.

In Gordon Hospital were treated 17 patients; in Leith General 1; in Leith Shelter 1; in Hairmyres Colony, 4; in East Fortune, 38; 1 in Sick Children's Hospital; and 3 in Royal Infirmary. Of these cases, 2 received both institutional and domiciliary treatment.

The Health Visitors paid 209 domiciliary visits, and they escorted 21 patients to sanatoria.

Altogether during the year 66 tubercular patients were treated, of whom 36 were treated on account of pulmonary tuberculosis or consumption; 8 were admitted to East Fortune for short periods for observation; 1 was treated for both pulmonary and non-pulmonary tuberculosis, while 29 were treated for non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

Year.	Total Cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified during year.	Number dying within 6 months of Notification.	Number dying since and before notification.
1912	32	12	26
1913	30	10	25
1914	42	8	28
1915	39	10	16
1916	27	6	16
1917	30	6	18
1918	38	10	20
1919	40	13	28
1920	34	7	14
1921	38	12	21
1922	38	16	24
1923	29	7	14
1924	45	16	20
1925	35	16	19
1926	34	13	16
1927	24	11	15
1928	32	10	12
1929	23	3	7

For years 1912 and 1913, figures exclude Duns and Eyemouth. From year 1914 onwards, figures exclude Duns but include Eyemouth.

MATERNITY SERVICE AND CHILD WELFARE SCHEME.

HOME VISITATION.—For the year 1929 the Health Visitors and Child Welfare Nurses paid 7,896 visits.

COLDSTREAM VOLUNTARY CHILD WELFARE CENTRE.—The Coldstream District Nurse attends this Centre on the first Wednesday of each month, when the

babies are weighed and the mothers individually advised as to questions of mothercraft.

PROVISION OF FOOD AND MILK.—Applications for food and milk were granted during the year 1929 to 11 families, numbering 52 persons in all, of whom 19 were entitled to relief under the Child Welfare Scheme.

HOSPITAL AND TREATMENT FACILITIES.—Nine children were examined by Dr. Sym and five by Mr. Lithgow, Aural Surgeon.

Two children had their tonsils and adenoids removed in the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh.

The cases treated in the hospitals in Edinburgh are as follows :—

1.—Pernicious Anaemia	Colinton.
2.—Puerperal Fever	Colinton.
3.—Club Feet	Royal Hospital for Sick Children.
4.—Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Pilton Hospital.
5.—Hyperemesis Gravidarum	Royal Maternity Hospital.
6.—Puerperal Sepsis	Colinton.
7.—Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Pilton Hospital.
8.—Infantile Paralysis	Royal Hospital for Sick Children.
9.—Contracted Pelvis	Royal Maternity Hospital.
10.—Circumcision	Royal Hospital for Sick Children.
11.—Hydrocele	Royal Hospital for Sick Children.
12.—Mastoid	Royal Infirmary.
13.—Tonsils and Adenoids	Royal Infirmary.
14.—Tonsils and Adenoids	Royal Infirmary.
15.—Cross birth	Royal Maternity Hospital.

The total number of cases who received relief in one form or another numbered 41 during the year 1929.

EAST DISTRICT.

(*b*) On 14/5/29 I represented under Section 6 of the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1925, the house at Crosshill, Chirnside, occupied by a railwayman. The house was uninhabitable owing to general disrepair.

(*e*) No investigations into the presence of pollution of rivers or streams were required.

(*f*) See my report for the year 1928.

(*g*) During the year applications in respect of 57 houses were made under the Housing (Rural Workers) Act, 1926.

(*h*) No conditions have arisen pointing to the expediency of a town planning scheme for the proper control of further development.

(*i*) No special remarks fall to be recorded regarding causes, origin and distribution of diseases within the District.

(*j*) Tabular statements showing incidence of infectious disease have already been submitted. Ordinary routine measures of prevention were undertaken.

With regard to the supply of diphtheria anti-toxin, all medical practitioners are repaid its cost on application. No use is made of the Schick and Dick tests of susceptibility to diphtheria and scarlet fever, nor of artificial immunisation against these diseases.

(*k*) The District Committee owns no hospital accommodation for persons suffering from infectious disease in general, but it is a partner in the Border Smallpox Combination Hospital.

(*l*) Paxton School was closed with a view to the prevention of scarlet fever from 20/11/29 to 22/11/29, both dates inclusive.

(*m*) The District Committee has come to an Agreement with the Corporation of Edinburgh for the hospital treatment of venereal disease cases in the Royal Infirmary, and pays the necessary travelling expenses of those who are unable to do so.

(*n*) The administrative control of tuberculosis remains with the Medical Officer for the district, and the usual methods have been put into operation when necessary. Treatment, however, lies in the hands of the County Council, and will be dealt with in a separate section.

(*o*) The arrangements for the Maternity Service and Child Welfare Scheme are made by the Maternity and Child Welfare Central Committee, to which Committee I have already reported. The information required under headings 1-4 inclusive is herewith given.

The following statistics are furnished on the instruction of the Scottish Board of Health :—

1.—INFANTILE MORTALITY.

(a) Number of deaths under one year	10
(b) Rate per 1,000 births	85.47
(c) Deaths under one week (prematurity)	1
,, one week and under four weeks (atelectasis neonatorum)	1
,, four weeks and under three months (whooping cough, broncho pneumonia)	2
,, three months and under six months (enteritis ; T.B. meningitis ; acute bronchitis ; heart failure)	4
,, six months and under twelve months (whooping cough, acute pneumonia)	2

2. BIRTHS.

(a) Number registered	117
(b) Number notified	78
(c) Number classified according to nature of attendance	0
(d) Number of still births (births of dead children)	4

3. MATERNAL MORTALITY.

(a) Number of deaths resulting from miscarriage or childbirth	1

(b) Number of Deaths resulting from puerperal sepsis 0

(*p*) 78 Notifications of births were received under the Notification of Births Act, 1907. The number of births notified by the Registrars was 117, so that 66 per cent. of the registered births were notified.

(*q*) There are no Midwives or Maternity Homes registered in the District.

(*r*) With reference to the Milk and Dairies (Scotland) Act:

(1) no arrangements have been made by the Local Authority for the bacteriological examination of samples of milk in terms of Section 20 and 21 of the Act.

(2) no action was taken in connection with milk consigned from other areas;

(3) no such outbreak has occurred;

(4) no supplies of milk for the District are graded;

(5) no other action was taken.

(*s*) No seizures of meat or other articles of food were made and no carcases were detained.

MIDDLE DISTRICT.

(*b*) As the result of a representation by Mr. Charles S. Petrie, on behalf of Duns Castle Estate, as to the unsatisfactory nature of the effluent from the Duns Sewage Purification Works thus causing a nuisance to the occupiers of Crumstane Farm, I visited and reported fully on the alleged nuisance on 29/4/29. There was no question that below the outfall of sewage the discharge was nothing more than a sewer, and I accordingly considered the condition of the sewage polluted from the sewage field constituted a nuisance within the meaning of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897. As the Middle District Committee represented the matter to the Duns Town Council the proposals of the sewage

scheme, the Town Council carried out considerable improvements. The *locus* was afterwards visited in company with Mr. J. Patterson, Engineer from the Department of Health, when the effluent from the sewage field was clear and odourless.

(*e*) No investigations into the presence of pollution of rivers or streams were required.

(*f*) See my report for the year 1928.

(*g*) During the year applications in respect of 50 houses were made under the Housing (Rural Workers) Act, 1926.

(*h*) No conditions have arisen pointing to the expediency of a town planning scheme for the proper control of further development.

(*i*) No special remarks fall to be recorded regarding causes, origin, and distribution of diseases within the District.

(*j*) Tabular statements showing incidence of infectious disease have already been submitted. Ordinary routine measures of prevention were undertaken.

With regard to the supply of diphtheria anti-toxin, all medical practitioners are repaid its cost on application. No use is made of the Schick and Dick tests of susceptibility to diphtheria and scarlet fever, nor of artificial immunisation against these diseases.

(*k*) The Middle District is a partner in Gordon Hospital Combination, which provides the necessary accommodation for infectious cases and also possesses a steam disinfector.

(*l*) No schools required to be closed during the year.

(*m*) The District Committee has come to an Agreement with the Corporation of Edinburgh for the hospital treatment of venereal disease cases, in the Royal Infirmary, and pays the necessary travelling expenses of those who are unable to do so.

(*n*) The administrative control of tuberculosis remains with the Medical Officer for the District, and the usual methods have been put into operation when necessary. Treatment, however, lies in the hands of the County Council and will be dealt with in a separate section.

(*o*) The arrangements for the Maternity Service and Child Welfare Scheme are made by the Maternity and Child Welfare Central Committee, to which Committee I have already reported. The information required under headings 1-4 inclusive is herewith given.

The following vital statistics are furnished on the instruction of the Scottish Board of Health :—

1.—INFANTILE MORTALITY.

(a) Number of deaths under one year	9
(b) Rate per 1,000 births	75.63
(c) Deaths under one week	2
(congenital debility 1 ; prematurity 1)	
,, one week and under four weeks	4
(patent ductus arteriosus 1 ; gastro enteritis 1 ; Hydrocephalus 1 ; bronchitis 1).	
,, four weeks and under three months	1
(marasmus)	
,, three months and under six months	2
(prematurity, 2)	

2.—BIRTHS.

(a) Number registered	119
(b) Number notified	30
(c) Number classified according to nature of attendance	0
(d) Number of still births (births of dead children)	3

3.—MATERNAL MORTALITY.

(a) Number of deaths resulting from miscarriage or childbirth	0
(b) Number of deaths resulting from puerperal sepsis	0

(*p*) 30 Notifications of births were received under the Notification of Births Act, 1907. The number of births notified by the Registrars was 119, so that 25 per cent. of the registered births were notified.

(*q*) There are no Midwives or Maternity Homes registered in the District.

(*r*) With reference to the Milk and Dairies (Scotland) Act :

(1) no arrangements have been made by the Local Authority for the bacteriological examination of samples of milk in terms of Section 20 and 21 of the Act ;

(2) no action was taken in connection with milk consigned from other areas ;

(3) no such outbreak has occurred ;

(4) no supplies of milk for the district are graded ;

(5) no other action was taken.

(*s*) No seizures of meat or other articles of food were made and no carcases were detained.

WEST DISTRICT.

(*b*) On 15/2/29 I gave evidence along with Major R. W. Sharpe, Vice-Chairman of the District Committee, before the Advisory Committee on Rivers Pollution Prevention.

On 26/11/29 I represented under Section 6 of the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1925, the houses at Lauder Barns, near Lauder, which were damp and had no sanitary conveniences.

(*e*) No investigations into the presence of pollution of rivers or streams were required.

(*f*) See my report for the year 1928.

(*g*) During the year applications in respect of 46 houses were made under the Housing (Rural Workers) Act, 1926.

(*h*) No conditions have arisen pointing to the expediency of a town planning scheme for the proper control of further development.

(*i*) No special remarks fall to be recorded regarding causes, origin, and distribution of disease within the District.

(*j*) Tabular statements showing incidence of infectious disease have already been submitted. Ordinary routine measures of prevention were undertaken.

With regard to the supply of diphtheria anti-toxin, all medical practitioners are repaid its cost on application. No use is made of the Schick and Dick tests of susceptibility to diphtheria and scarlet fever, nor of artificial immunisation against these diseases.

(*k*) The West District is a partner in Gordon Hospital Combination, which provides the necessary accommodation for infectious cases and also possesses a steam disinfector.

(*l*) Earlston School was closed from 18/12/29 till 24/12/29 with a view to the prevention of the spread of diphtheria.

(*m*) The District Committee has come to an Agreement with the Corporation of Edinburgh for the hospital treatment of venereal disease cases, in the Royal Infirmary, and pays the necessary travelling expenses of those who are unable to do so.

(*n*) The administrative control of tuberculosis remains with the Medical Officer for the district, and the usual methods have been put into operation when necessary. Treatment, however, lies in the hands of the County Council, and will be dealt with in a separate section.

(*o*) The arrangements for the Maternity Service and Child Welfare Scheme are made by the Maternity and Child Welfare Central Committee, to which Committee I have already reported. The information required under headings 1-4 inclusive is herewith given.

1.—INFANTILE MORTALITY.

(a) Number of deaths	7
(b) Rate per 1,000 births	67.3
(c) Deaths under one week	3

(premature birth, 1)

(congenital debility, 2)

,,	one week and under four weeks (bronchitis)	1
,,	four weeks and under three months (broncho pneumonia, 1) (pseudo sclerema neonatorum, 1)	2
,,	six months and under twelve months (broncho pneumonia)	1

2.—BIRTHS.

(a) Number registered	104
(b) Number notified	15
(c) Number classified according to nature of attendance	0
(d) Number of still births (births of dead children)	3

3.—MATERNAL MORTALITY.

(a) Number of deaths resulting from miscarriage or childbirth	1
(b) Number of deaths resulting from puerperal sepsis	0

(*p*) 15 Notifications of births were received under the Notification of Births Act, 1907. The number of births notified by the Registrars was 104, so that 14 per cent. of the registered births were notified.

(*q*) There are no Midwives or Maternity Homes registered in the district.

(*r*) With reference to the Milk and Dairies (Scotland) Act:

(1) no arrangements have been made by the Local Authority for the bacteriological examination of samples of milk in terms of Sections 20 and 21 of the Act.

(2) no action was taken in connection with milk consigned from other areas;

(3) no such outbreak has occurred;

(4) no supplies of milk for the District are graded;

(5) no other action was taken.

(*s*) No seizures of meat or other articles of food were made, and no carcases were detained.

LAUDER BURGH.

(*o*) The arrangements for the Maternity Service and Child Welfare Scheme are made by the Maternity and Child Welfare Central Committee, to which Committee I have already reported. The information required under headings 1-4 inclusive is herewith given.

1.—INFANTILE MORTALITY.

(a) Number of deaths under one year	0
(b) Rate per 1,000 births	0

2.—BIRTHS.

(a) Number registered	8
(b) Number notified	1
(c) Number classified according to nature of attendance	0
(d) Number of still births (Births of dead children)	0

(*p*) One Notification of birth was received under the Notification of Births Act, 1907. The number of births notified by the Registrar was 8, so that 12 per cent. of the registered births were notified.

For other items, refer to my Report for the year 1928.

COLDSTREAM BURGH.

(*b*) On 22/1/29 I submitted a list of all houses reported to the Town Council, either under Section 30 of the Working Classes Act, 1890, or Section 6 of the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1925. These houses numbered 20 in all.

(*o*) The arrangements for the Maternity Service and Child Welfare Scheme are made by the Maternity and Child Welfare Central Committee, to which Committee I have already reported. The information required under headings 1-4 inclusive is herewith given.

1.—INFANTILE MORTALITY.

(a) Number of deaths under one year	1
(b) Rate per 1,000 births	43.47
(c) Deaths under one week	1
(Inanition)	

2.—BIRTHS.

(a) Number registered	23
(b) Number notified	2
(c) Number classified according to nature of attendance	0
(d) Number of still births (births of dead children)	1

(*p*) Two Notifications of births were received under the Notification of Births Act, 1907. The number of births notified by the Registrar was 23.

For other items, refer to my Report for the year 1928.

EYEMOUTH BURGH.

(*o*) The arrangements for the Maternity Service and Child Welfare Scheme are made by the Maternity and Child Welfare Central Committee, to which Committee I have already reported. The information required under headings 1-4 inclusive is herewith given.

1.—INFANTILE MORTALITY.

(a) Number of deaths under one year	1
(b) Rate per 1,000 births	20.4
(c) Deaths under one week	1
(congenital debility)	

2.—BIRTHS.

(a)	Number registered	49
(b)	Number notified	42
(d)	Number of still births (births of dead children)	2

(*p*) 42 Notifications of births were received under the Notification of Births Act, 1907. The number of births notified by the Registrar was 49, so that 85 per cent. of the registered births were notified.

For other items, refer to my Report for the year 1928.